North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

Issue: 09-02 May 3, 2002

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AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota
The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in April was 92 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is up 5 percent from last year and 2 percent from two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 89 percent of the base, was up 7 percent from April 2001 while the All Livestock Index, at 102 percent, was down 6 percent from last year.

United States
The Prices Received by Farmers Index for All Farm Products was 95 percent of its 1990-92 base, down 10 percent from the March index and 10 percent below the April 2001 index.

The All Crops Index was 100 percent, down 15 percent from March and 3 percent below April 2001.

The Livestock and Products Index, at 90 percent, was down 5 percent from last month and 17 percent from April 2001.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, April 15, 2002 1/

Item	Unit	NORTH DAKOTA Apr 2001	NORTH DAKOTA Mar 2002	NORTH DAKOTA Apr 15, 2002	UNITED STATES Apr 2001	UNITED STATES Mar 2002	UNITED STATES Apr 15, 2002	Effective U.S. Parity Price Apr 2002
		- - - Dollars - - -			- - - Dollars - - -			- Dollars -
Wheat, Durum	Bu	2.39	3.19	3.00	2.46	3.33	3.16	---
Other Spring	Bu	2.91	2.75	2.70	3.05	2.91	2.88	---
Winter	Bu	2.56	2.65	2.60	2.78	2.81	2.73	---
All	Bu	2.78	2.82	2.74	2.86	2.87	2.80	9.51
Corn	Bu	1.69	1.83	1.85	1.89	1.94	1.86	6.44
Rye	Bu	1.59	---	---	---	---	---	5.60
Oats	Bu	0.98	1.90	1.60	1.28	1.99	1.90	3.92
Barley, Feed	Bu	1.50	1.52	1.45	1.73	1.75	1.75	---
Malting	Bu	1.84	1.99	1.90	2.37	2.60	2.54	---
All	Bu	1.65	1.72	1.65	2.05	2.18	2.10	6.32
Sunflower, Oil	Cwt	6.83	10.80	10.20	---	---	---	---
Non-oil	Cwt	11.50	10.60	11.00	---	---	---	---
All	Cwt	8.14	10.70	10.40	7.67	10.20	9.71	---
Baled Hay, Alfalfa	Ton	49.00	52.00	53.00	105.00	98.80	106.00	---
Other	Ton	33.00	36.00	37.00	75.60	73.00	78.70	---
All	Ton	44.00	49.00	48.00	99.00	91.40	99.90	---
Flaxseed	Bu	3.70	4.75	4.70	3.68	4.75	4.70	11.20
Soybeans	Bu	3.87	4.03	4.00	4.22	4.38	4.38	14.10
Dry Edible Beans, Navy	Cwt	11.30	20.00	---	---	---	---	---
Pinto	Cwt	11.50	30.40	---	---	---	---	---
All	Cwt	11.60	28.00	27.50	15.60	26.60	26.70	47.60
Potatoes, Fresh 2/	Cwt	5.55	9.50	---	7.14	13.00	---	---
Processing	Cwt	5.50	4.80	---	5.14	5.46	---	---
All	Cwt	5.95	6.45	7.25	5.47	8.50	8.61	13.40
Beef Cattle	Cwt	78.70	76.90	71.20	75.40	70.70	67.80	157.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	86.30	80.30	79.00	79.60	74.30	71.20	---
Cows	Cwt	44.20	42.80	40.00	43.30	41.60	40.50	---
Calves	Cwt	98.00	104.00	100.00	112.00	104.00	102.00	209.00
Sheep	Cwt	38.00	25.40	---	36.90	34.40	---	75.00
Lambs	Cwt	90.00	60.40	---	84.30	66.30	---	177.00
Hogs	Cwt	48.70	38.70	---	47.80	36.00	30.50	101.00

1/ Previous month and previous year prices are entire month average except for alfalfa, other and all hay which are mid-month prices. 2/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock.

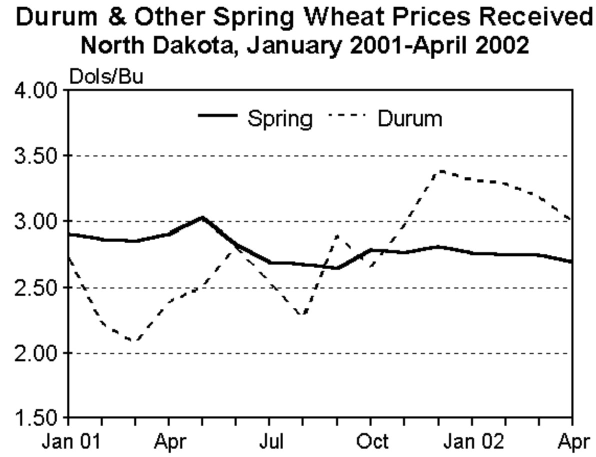
N.D. Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA ▪ P.O. Box 3166 ▪ 701-239-5306
E-mail: nass-nd@nass.usda.gov ▪ Internet: http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

INDEX NUMBERS OF FARM PRICES
April 15, 2002

Indexes and Ratios	NORTH DAKOTA			UNITED STATES		
	Apr 2001	Mar 2002	Apr 15, 2002	Apr 2001	Mar 2002	Apr 15, 2002
PRICES RECEIVED			(1990-92 = 100)			
ALL FARM PRODUCTS	88	93	92	106	105	95
CROPS	83	90	89	103	117	100
Food Grains	88	90	87	92	85	83
Feed Grains & Hay	78	86	83	90	91	90
Oil Bearing Crops 1/	72	86	84	75	79	79
Other Crops 2/	82	100	101	92	145	147
LIVESTOCK	108	104	102	109	95	90
Meat Animals	105	101	97	103	92	87
Dairy Products	125	124	125	112	97	96
Poultry & Eggs	95	96	96	116	101	91
PRICES PAID	---	---	---	124	123	123
RATIO 3/	---	---	---	85	85	77

1/ ND includes non-oil sunflower. 2/ Potatoes, dry edible beans and sugarbeets.
3/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid.



U.S. AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK

Farm Credit Use Expected to Expand Moderately in 2002

Farm lending, which has been growing since 1992, is expected to increase again in 2002. Last year, United States farmers held $192.8 billion in farm loans. For 2002, a rise of 2 percent to $196.5 billion is forecast, the smallest annual growth in a decade. With limited or no gains in farm commodity prices expected this year following the relatively low levels of 2001 and uncertainties about future levels of direct government payments, farmers and lenders may be more cautious about adding debt. Also moderating demand for credit are high levels of direct government payments to farmers in recent years, adequate levels of working capital and sizable off-farm earnings.

Interest Rates on Farm Loans Expected to Increase During 2002-03

Borrowers, including farm borrowers, are likely to encounter rising interest rates in 2002 and 2003 after enjoying declining rates since mid-2000. The upward pressure comes from the economic rebound that began in late 2001, stronger business credit demand, tighter domestic monetary policy and gradually accelerating economic growth. Because agricultural credit is only a small proportion (1 percent in 2001) of total credit, interest rates on agricultural loans are determined primarily by factors outside agriculture in national and international credit markets. Nevertheless, farm loan rates are expected to increase less than most interest rates because of a historic adjustment lag.

Oats Market Strong in 2001/02

Oats, the least prominent of the feed grains, have been gaining attention as prices climb and buyers scramble to ensure supplies. In the United States, improved genetics for crops other than oats and planting flexibility under the 1996 Farm Act has cut into oat production in favor of corn and soybeans. The United States currently imports about 30 percent of its total oat supply primarily from Canada. While world stocks are projected to increase due to larger global production (increases in the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe), stocks of high-quality milling oats are projected to decline significantly. Canadian oat stocks are projected at the lowest since 1995/96. The tight domestic supply of high-quality oats in 2001/02 has been caused by weather problems in the Upper Midwest and in the oat-growing regions of Canada, Sweden and Finland.

Source: Agricultural Outlook, USDA-ERS, April 19, 2002

ANNUAL DAIRY PRODUCTION

United States
Total cheese production, excluding cottage cheeses, was 8.13 billion pounds, 2 percent below 2000 production. Wisconsin was the leading state with 26 percent of the production.

American type cheese production was 3.52 billion pounds, 3 percent below 2000 and accounted for 43 percent of total cheese in 2001.

Italian varieties, with 3.33 billion pounds were 1 percent above 2000 production. Mozzarella accounted for 80 percent of the Italian production followed by Provolone with 8 percent and Ricotta with 7 percent. Wisconsin was the leading State in Italian cheese production with 29 percent of the production.

Butter production in the United States during 2001 totaled 1.24 billion pounds, 2 percent below 2000. California accounted for 28 percent of the production, followed by Wisconsin with 26 percent.

Frozen dessert: (comparisons with 2000)
- Ice cream, Regular (total): 981 million gallons, up slightly.
- Ice cream, Lowfat (total): 407 million gallons, up 9 percent.
- Ice cream, Nonfat (total): 21.5 million gallons, down 30 percent.
- Sherbet (total): 52.4 million gallons, up 1 percent.
- Frozen Yogurt (total): 79.6 million gallons, down 16 percent.

Dry milk products: (comparisons with 2000)
- Nonfat dry milk for human food: 1.41 million pounds, down 3 percent.

Dry whey products: (comparisons with 2000)
- Dry whey, human: 979 billion pounds, down 11 percent.
- Dry whey, animal: 66.9 million pounds, down 19 percent.
- Dry whey, total: 1,046 million pounds, down 12 percent.

MILK PRODUCTION

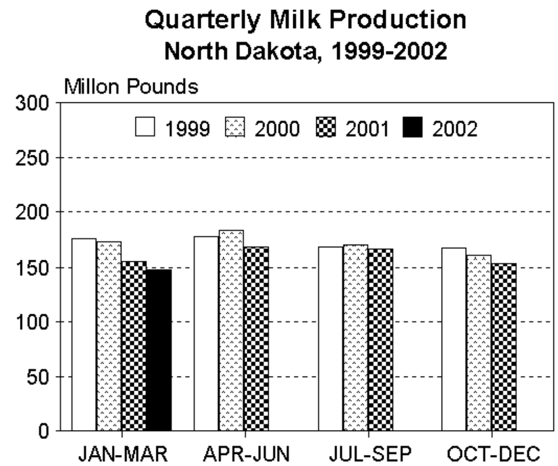
North Dakota
Milk production in North Dakota during the January - March 2002 quarter decreased 5 percent from the comparable quarter in 2001. Total milk production for this quarter, at 148 million pounds, was down from 156 million pounds last year. The average number of milk cows during the January - March quarter was 41,000 head, 5,000 head less than the same period last year. Production per cow during the quarter was 3,600 pounds, up from 3,400 pounds a year earlier.

United States
The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 42.3 billion pounds, 2 percent above the January-March period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the January-March quarter was 9.11 million head, 38,000 head less than the same period last year.

MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY - MARCH

State [1/]	Milk Cows [2/]		Milk Production [3/]		
	2001	2002	2001	2002	Change from 2001
	- - 1,000 Head - -		- - Million Pounds - -		(%)
N.D.	46	41	156	148	-5.1
Calif.	1,568	1,626	8,097	8,450	4.4
Minn.	518	493	2,306	2,203	-4.5
N.Y.	670	676	2,854	3,016	5.7
Wisc.	1,311	1,278	5,603	5,526	-1.4
U.S.	9,143	9,105	41,267	42,271	2.4

1/Published are a few selected states from the National release. 2/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/Excludes milk sucked by calves.



MEAT ANIMALS-PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION & INCOME

North Dakota
Cattle & Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves during 2001 increased 20 percent from 2000. All cattle and calf marketings during 2001 were up 18 percent from 2000. The annual average price of cattle and calves, at $84.10 per 100 pounds live weight (cwt), was up from the 2000 price of $82.70.

Hogs & Pigs: Cash receipts for hogs and pigs during 2001 were up slightly from the previous year. Marketings were 4 percent below 2000, while the annual average price per cwt increased from $43.10 to $45.40.

Sheep & Lambs: Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2001 were down 27 percent from 2000. Marketings were down 6 percent. The average annual price of sheep and lambs per cwt decreased from $69.30 to $53.60.

MEAT ANIMALS (Cattle, Sheep & Hogs)
Production & Income, North Dakota, 1997 - 2001

Year	Production	Marketings	Avg. Price Per 100 Lbs.	Value of Production	Cash Receipts	Value of Home Consumption	Gross Income
	- - - 1,000 Lbs. - - -		- - - Dollars - - -	- - - - - - - - - - - - 1,000 Dollars - - - - - - - - - - - -			
			CATTLE				
1997	433,206	613,590	65.10	288,928	399,583	4,599	404,182
1998	592,403	522,390	67.60	397,570	352,888	4,715	357,603
1999	544,968	612,210	73.10	397,872	477,241	5,150	452,391
2000	558,972	530,040	82.70	455,011	438,210	5,575	443,785
2001	550,129	624,290	84.10	463,229	524,924	5,824	530,748
			SHEEP				
1997	8,884	10,725	72.90	7,465	7,823	106	7,929
1998	10,033	10,696	58.80	5,884	6,290	81	6,371
1999	10,277	10,479	65.20	6,300	6,830	81	6,911
2000	10,615	10,869	69.30	7,175	7,533	94	7,627
2001	9,095	10,263	53.60	4,983	5,504	73	5,577
			HOGS				
1997	73,515	75,311	46.30	33,971	36,186	480	36,666
1998	94,526	96,248	34.80	33,794	35,558	359	35,917
1999	95,296	100,630	30.10	33,141	35,968	304	36,272
2000	100,229	102,390	43.10	46,114	47,891	459	48,350
2001	92,042	97,840	45.40	44,657	47,917	489	48,406

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

NASS Surveys

Mid-year USDA Agricultural Surveys start May 29 and run through July 9. The specific titles of these surveys are the **June Quarterly Crop-Stocks Survey**, **June Quarterly Hog Survey**, **June Area Frame Survey** (annually), **July Cattle Survey** and **July Sheep Survey**. These surveys are used in estimating the planted and harvested acreage for principle crops, the amount of stored grain and livestock inventories. Without the data from these surveys, policymakers, farm organizations and others who make critical decisions that affect our farmers/ranchers would make those decisions based on opinion rather than fact...and that's dangerous.

The **Small Grains Variety Survey** collects information on barley and wheat (durum, spring and winter) varieties grown in North Dakota. The North Dakota Wheat Commission, NDSU Extension Service, NDSU Experiment Station and American Malting Barley Association provide supporting funds for this survey. The survey period is June 1-26. This provides a snapshot of the different varieties grown in North Dakota.

The following is a schedule of upcoming NASS reports for May. Most of these reports will be published in upcoming **Farm Reporters**. For more immediate information, call our office at 701-239-5306 or 1-800-626-3134 after the release time or go online to: **http://www.nass.usda.gov/nd/**.

These are the following release dates:

	May	CST
Crop Production	10th	7:30 am
Potato Stocks	14th	2:00 pm
Ag Chemical Usage-Field Crops	15th	2:00 pm
ND Rank in Agriculture	31st	8:00 am
Agricultural Prices	31st	2:00 pm

	June	CST
Acreage Report	28th	7:30 am
Grain Stocks Report	28th	7:30 am
Hog and Pigs Report	28th	2:00 pm
	July	CST
Wheat Varieties Release	12th	2:00 pm
Barley Varieties Release	12th	2:00 pm
Cattle Report	19th	2:00 pm
Sheep Report	19th	2:00 pm

Beef 701: Carcass Merit Short Course Sessions Set at NDSU

Intensive three-day workshops on meat quality and consistency in the beef industry will be offered for cattle producers at North Dakota State University, May 20-22, August 12-14 and October 28-30. The number of participants is limited. Registration and a fee of $100 are due by May 13 for the May program. For more information or to obtain a registration form, contact Lisa Lee at (701) 328-5135 or Bill Hodous at (701) 241-5727. More than half of the cost of the workshop is being underwritten by the North Dakota Beef Commission and the Cattlemen's Beef Board with check-off funds. The NDSU Extension Service and its Beef Quality Assurance Program are additional sponsors.

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Douglas Hartwig, State Statistician
William Meyer, Deputy State Statistician

ND AG STATISTICS SERVICE
PO BOX 3166
FARGO ND 58108-3166